

7-1-7 Identifying Milestone Dates Activity

Scenario set #3

Instructions

- Read through the following four scenarios and determine the relevant 7-1-7 milestone date for emergence, detection, notification, and early response action completion.
- Look at the 7-1-7 Milestone Dates Reference Guide for details on the date definitions.
- If you are doing this activity in a group, discuss the answers together in your group.

Scenarios

Date of emergence

Mabel's is a busy roadside restaurant by a busy bus depot. One of her customers fell sick and went to the doctor on March 1. He was admitted and given IV fluids. He did not quickly recover, so he was tested for salmonella on March 2. The test came back on March 2 confirming his salmonella infection. After another of Mabel's customers fell ill on March 3, Mabel was interviewed about where she sources her food. Mabel and the authorities determined that her lettuce was the source of the contamination. She bought it from the grocery store on April 29. The investigators discovered that a local farm delivered the lettuce to the grocery store on April 28.

What is the date of emergence?

- a. April 28 because that is the earliest known date the lettuce was in circulation.
- b. April 29 because that is the earlier known date that the lettuce was used at Mabel's.
- c. March 1 because that is when the first customer fell ill.
- d. March 3 because that is when the contamination was tied to Mabel's.

Date of detection

A community health worker was on her rounds on April 12. She visited a family with a young child who, she suspected, had meningitis due to the rash and stiff neck he had. She recorded her suspicions in the app she uses to document her work. She helped the family to arrange for transport to the hospital the next day where, in fact, the doctor confirmed her suspicions. The doctor reported the case to the local health department, per protocol, on April 13.

What is the date of detection?

- a. April 12 because that is when the community health worker suspected and recorded the case.
- b. April 13 because that is when the official diagnosis was made.
- c. April 13 because that is when the health department was alerted.

Date of notification

A local public health surveillance team incorporated “rumor investigations” into their event-based surveillance practices. One of the team members is a part of a large WhatsApp group that mostly chats about local activities and events for children. On Tuesday, September 8, one member messaged about her child’s daycare being closed for a few days (since Friday, September 4) because “everyone has diarrhea.” There was a big flurry of messages from other parents whose children went to the same day care whose children were sick and other messages from parents who said their children were fine. There were other messages about how it wasn’t diarrhea but vomiting. There were other messages, too, that said that only the teachers got sick. Jillian, the surveillance team member, decided to pursue the rumors and entered the information into their data system to flag need for an investigation as soon as she got to work on Wednesday, September 9.

What is the date of notification?

- a. September 4 when the school closed.
- b. September 8 when the rumors started in the WhatsApp group.
- c. September 9 when Jillian entered the information for investigation.

Date of early response action completion

The public health team in the Maidalon refugee camp regularly conducts screening for parasitic diseases at intake. They typically see about a 3% positivity rate. They often get bogged down when there is an influx of newcomers or a shortage of supplies. On one such occasion, October 13, they tested the samples from the previous three-day period. With this batch, the lab tech was alarmed that the positivity rate jumped to 8%. He alerted his supervisor. His supervisor made an inquiry to the intake team on October 14. The intake team replied on October 15 to let the supervisor know that they knew that a group of refugees was arriving from an area with a known parasitic infection. They preemptively treated everyone from that group. They subsequently re-tested a portion of the group who all tested negative. On October 16, the supervisor wrote a SitRep to record the events and to document a low-risk assessment level.

What is the date of the early response action completion?

- a. October 13 when the lab tech alerted his supervisor.
- b. October 14 when the intake team was queried.
- c. October 15 when the intake team replied.
- d. October 16 when the SitRep was published, and the assessment level was deemed low.
- e. There is no date as there was no investigation or official response.